

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
FORT PIERCE DIVISION**

Robert Katen, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
	)	Civil Action No. _____
	)	
v.	)	<b>CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT</b>
	)	
	)	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
Lyons Magnus, LLC, Defendant.	)	
	)	

Plaintiff Robert Katen (“Plaintiff”), on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, files this Class Action Complaint (“CAC”) against Defendant Lyons Magnus, LLC (“Defendant”), and in support state the following:

**NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is a class action lawsuit by Plaintiff, and others similarly situated, who purchased Defendant’s Recalled Products, including: Lyons Ready Care, Lyons Barista Style, Pirq, Glucerna, Aloha Protein Powder, Intelligentsia, Kate Farms, Oatly, Premier Protein, MRE, Stumptown Cold Brew Coffee, Imperial, and Thick/Nectar Consistency Dairy Drink (hereinafter “Recalled Products”), which were all manufactured, sold and distributed by Defendant. Several of Defendant’s Recalled Products have been shown to be adulterated with *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum*. The presence of *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* in Defendant’s Recalled Products was not disclosed in the products’ label, in violation of state and federal law. Plaintiff and the putative classes suffered economic damages due to Defendant’s misconduct (as set forth below) and they seek injunctive relief and restitution for the full purchase price of the Recalled Products they purchased. Plaintiff alleges the following based upon personal

knowledge as well as investigation by counsel, and as to all other matters, upon information and belief. Plaintiff further believes that substantial evidentiary support will exist for the allegations set forth herein after a reasonable opportunity for discovery.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332(d)(2). The matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000 and is a class action in which there are in excess of 100 class members and Plaintiff is a citizen of a state different from Defendant.

3. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant is authorized to conduct and does business in Florida. Defendant has marketed, promoted, distributed, and sold Recalled Products, including the Recalled Product identified below, in Florida and Defendant has sufficient minimum contacts with this State and/or sufficiently avail themselves of the markets in this State through promotion, sales, distribution and marketing within this State to render the exercise of jurisdiction by this Court permissible.

4. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(a) and (b) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred while she resided in this judicial district. Venue is also proper under 18 U.S.C. §1965(a) because Defendant transacts substantial business in this District.

### **THE PARTIES**

5. Plaintiff is a citizen and resident of Indian River County, Florida and at all times relevant hereto, has been a resident of Indian River County. In or around December 2021, Plaintiff began purchasing Defendant's product at Costco and Sam's Club retail stores located in and around West Palm Beach, Florida and Vero Beach, Florida. At the time of purchase, based on the

false and misleading claims by Defendant, Plaintiff was unaware that Defendant's Recalled Products may be adulterated with *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum*. Plaintiff purchased the Defendant's products on the assumption that the labeling of Defendant's products were accurate and that the products were unadulterated, safe and effective. Plaintiff would not have purchased Defendant's Recalled Products had he known there was a risk the products may contain *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum*. As a result, Plaintiff suffered injury in fact when she spent money to purchase products he would not otherwise have purchased absent Defendant's misconduct, as alleged herein. Plaintiff may purchase the products again if the product is not contaminated and is properly labeled.

6. Defendant Lyons Magnus, LLC, is a food service corporation. Defendant is a California Corporation with its principal place of business in Fresno, California, located at: 3158 East Hamilton Avenue, Fresno, California 93702. Defendant manufactures, markets, advertises, labels, distributes and sells the Recalled Products at issue in this litigation.

### **INTRODUCTION**

7. The following Recalled Products are manufactured, marketed, and sold by Defendant: Lyons Barista Style, Lyons Ready Care, Glucerna, Tone It Up, Uproot, Organic Valley, Sated, Aloha, Rejuvenate, Optimum Nutrition, Sweetie Pie Organics, Intelligentsia, Ensure Harvest, PediaSure Harvest, Glucerna Original, Kate Farms Pirq, Oatly. Premier Protein, MRE, Stumptown, and Imperial.<sup>1</sup> A full list of the Recalled Products is included below.

8. Defendant distributes these Recalled Products both nationwide and internationally.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.foodsafetynews.com/2022/08/lyons-magnus-expands-recall-of-oatly-stumptown-and-other-beverages-over-microbial-contamination/#:~:text=Lyons%20Magnus%20has%20announced%20that,the%20organisms%20Cronobacter%20sakazakii%20and> (last visited August 16, 2022).

9. Defendant's packaging notes that these products contain safe, quality ingredients that are suitable for consumption by vulnerable populations including young, old, and ill people.

10. On July 28, 2022, Defendant recalled a list of fifty-three (53) of its products due to possible contamination with *Cronobacter sakazakii* (hereinafter "Cronobacter").

11. As part of the Warning, the FDA Deputy Commissioner for Food Policy and Response stated, "Lyons Magnus LLC ("Lyons Magnus" or the "Company") today announced that it is voluntarily recalling nutritional and beverage products due to the potential for microbial contamination, including from the organism Cronobacter. The list of recalled products does not include products intended for infants (i.e. under the age of one). While infection related to Cronobacter is rare, the common symptoms of illness could include fever, vomiting and urinary tract infection."<sup>2</sup>

12. The initial recall notice included the products listed above and included the following product information:<sup>3</sup>

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
Lyons Ready Care	Thickened Dairy Drink - Moderately Thick/Honey Consistency 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	045796100466	10045796100463	4512	12/30/2022
				5512	12/31/2022
				5902	11/1/2022
	Thickened Dairy Drink - Moderately Thick/Honey Consistency	045796100442	10045796100449	0012	11/6/2022

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.fda.gov/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/lyons-magnus-voluntarily-recalls-53-nutritional-and-beverage-products-due-potential-microbial> (last visited August 16, 2022).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
	24ct/8 fl oz cartons				
	2.0 High Calorie High Protein Nutritional Drink Butter Pecan 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	045796100497	10045796100494	1412	2/15/2023
				6312	2/10/2023
				9312	2/13/2023
				9902	1/4/2023
	2.0 High Calorie High Protein Nutritional Drink Chocolate 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	045796100503	10045796100500	8212	2/2/2023
		045796100459	10045796100456	3512	12/29/2022
	Thickened Dairy Drink - Mildly Thick/Nectar Consistency 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	;	;	4512	12/30/2022
				7902	11/3/2022
	2.0 High Calorie High Protein Nutritional Drink Vanilla 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	045796100916	10045796100913	5312	2/9/2023
				6312	2/10/2023
				6512	3/2/2023
				7512	3/3/2023
				8512	3/4/2023
				8902	1/3/2023
				9902	1/4/2023
	Thickened Dairy Drink - Mildly Thick/Nectar	045796100435	10045796100432	3712	1/18/2023
				5212	12/1/2022
				5712	1/20/2023

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
	Consistency 24ct/8 fl oz cartons			8512	1/3/2023
				8902	11/4/2022
				4712	1/19/2023
				9902	11/5/2022
Lyons Barista Style	Almond Non-Dairy Beverage 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	045796101654	10045796101651	2012	1/7/2023
				3012	1/8/2023
				3712	3/19/2023
				4012	1/9/2023
				5712	3/21/2023
				5012	1/10/2023
	Coconut Non-Dairy Beverage 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	045796101791	10045796101798	1612	3/7/2023
				2612	3/8/2023
				2712	3/18/2023
				3612	3/9/2023
				8412	2/22/2023
	Oat Non- Dairy Beverage 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	045796101807	10045796101804	0612	3/6/2023
				2212	1/27/2023
				3212	1/28/2023
				4212	1/29/2023
				6412	2/20/2023
				7412	2/21/2023
Pirq	Plant Protein Decadent Chocolate 12ct/325ml cartons	857690008065	857690008164	5412	5/25/2023
				6412	5/26/2023
				7412	5/27/2023
				8012	4/18/2023
				9012	4/19/2023
	Plant Protein	857690008089	857690008140	8412	7/27/2023
				9412	7/28/2023

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
	Caramel Coffee 12ct/325ml cartons				
	Plant Protein Golden Vanilla 12ct/325ml cartons	857690008041	857690008157	3412	5/23/2023
				4412	5/24/2023
				5012	4/15/2023
	Plant Protein Decadent Chocolate 4ct/325ml cartons	857690008065	857690008294	9012	4/19/2023
	Plant Protein Caramel Coffee 4ct/325ml cartons	857690008089	857690008270	8412	7/27/2023
	Plant Protein Golden Vanilla 4ct/325ml cartons	857690008041	857690008287	4412	5/24/2023
				6012	4/16/2023
				7012	4/17/2023
	Plant Protein Very Strawberry 12ct/325ml cartons	857690008300	857690008331	4412	7/23/2023
				5412	7/24/2023
				7012	6/16/2023
				8012	6/17/2023
	Plant Protein Very Strawberry 4ct/325ml cartons	857690008300	857690008317	7012	6/16/2023

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
Glucerna Original 8 fl oz tetra carton 24 count club case (sold only at Costco, BJ's Wholesale Club, and Sam's Club)	Chocolate 24ct/237ml cartons	70074685656	70074685649	400254X00	8/1/2023
				400264X00	8/1/2023
				400274X00	8/1/2023
				410364X00	9/1/2023
	Strawberry 24ct/237ml cartons	70074685670	70074685663	400244X00	8/1/2023
				410354X00	9/1/2023
	Vanilla 24ct/237ml cartons	70074685632	70074685625	400194X00	8/1/2023
				400204X00	8/1/2023
				400214X00	8/1/2023
				400224X00	8/1/2023
				400234X00	8/1/2023
				410294X00	9/1/2023
				410304X00	9/1/2023
				410314X00	9/1/2023
				410334X00	9/1/2023
				410344X00	9/1/2023
Aloha	Chocolate Sea Salt Plant-Based Protein 4ct/330ml cartons	842096112355	10842096142359	8312	7/12/2023
				9312	7/13/2023
	Coconut Plant-Based Protein 4ct/330ml cartons	842096112379	108420961423733	7312	7/11/2023
	Vanilla Plant-Based Protein 4ct/330ml cartons	842096112348	10842096142342	7312	7/11/2023



Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
	Iced Coffee Plant Based Protein 4ct/330ml cartons	842096112386	10842096142380	0412	7/19/2023
				9312	7/18/2023
Intelligentsia	Cold Coffee 12ct/330ml cartons	800222000969	10800222000966	9212	12/7/2022
	Oat Latte 12ct/330ml cartons	800222000976	10800222000980	7112	1/4/2023
				8112	1/5/2023
Kate Farms	Pediatric Standard 1.2 Vanilla 12ct/250ml cartons	851823006904	851823006997	2512	6/1/2023
				3512	6/2/2023
				4512	6/3/2023
				5512	6/4/2023
				6512	6/5/2023
Oatly	Oat-Milk Barista Edition 12ct/32 fl oz slim cartons (Food Service Channel)	190646630058	101906466300550	0112	20APR2023 LM
				1112	21APR2023 LM
				2902	02APR2023 LM
				3902	03APR2023 LM
				4902	04APR2023 LM
				6112	26APR2023 LM
				9012	19APR2023 LM
Premier Protein	Chocolate 12ct/330ml cartons	643843714477	643843714200	2412/2142BT	7/20/2023
				3412/2143BT	7/21/2023
				4612/2164BT	8/11/2023

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
				5612/2165BT	8/12/2023
				66122166BT	8/13/2023
	Vanilla 18ct/330ml cartons	643843715351	643843718642	0012/2100BT	6/8/2023
				1012/2101BT	6/9/2023
				1212/2121BT	6/29/2023
				1612/2161BT	8/8/2023
				2012/2102BT	6/10/2023
				2212/2122BT	6/30/2023
				3012/2103BT	6/11/2023
				4012/2104BT	6/12/2023
	Chocolate 18ct/330ml cartons	643843715344	643843718581	9712/2179BT	8/26/2023
		643843714507	643843713944	0612/2160BT	8/7/2023
	Vanilla 12ct/330ml cartons	;	;	4902/2094BT	6/2/2023
				9512/2159BT	8/6/2023
	Vanilla 4ct/330ml cartons	643843714507	643843714736	4902/2094BT	6/2/2023
				5902/2095BT	6/3/2023
				6902/2096BT	6/4/2023
				7902/2097BT	6/5/2023
				8902/2098BT	6/6/2023
	Café Latte 4ct/330ml cartons	643843716686	643843716662	3212/2123BT	7/1/2023
				4212/2124BT	7/2/2023
				5212/2125BT	7/3/2023
				62122126BT	7/4/2023
				7212/2127BT	7/5/2023
	Café Latte 18ct/330ml cartons	643843716655	643843718567	8212/2128BT	7/6/2023

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
	Vanilla 15ct/330ml cartons	643843714507	643843720461	5902/2095BT	6/3/2023
MRE	Cookies & Cream Protein Shake 4ct/330ml cartons	810044573893	10810044573968	2112	4/22/2023
				3112	4/23/2023
				9612	6/18/2023
	Milk Chocolate Protein Shake 4ct/330ml cartons	810044573916	10810044573944	3112	4/23/2023
				4112	4/24/2023
				5112	4/25/2023
	Salted Caramel Protein Shake 4ct/330ml cartons	810044573923	10810044573937	1112	4/21/2023
				2112	4/22/2023
				7612	6/16/2023
				8612	6/17/2023
	Vanilla Milk Shake Protein Shake 4ct/330ml cartons	810044573909	10810044573951	0112	4/20/2023
				1112	4/21/2023
				6612	6/15/2023
				7612	6/16/2023
Stumptown	Cold Brew Coffee With Oat Milk Original 12ct/325ml cartons	855186006878	10855186006875	3312	12/9/2022
				4312	12/10/2022
	Cold Brew Coffee With Oat Milk Horchata 12ct/325ml cartons	855186006892	10855186006892	4312	12/10/2022
				5312	12/11/2022

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
	Cold Brew Coffee With Oat Milk Chocolate 12ct/325ml cartons	855186006892	10855186006892	6312	12/12/2022
	Cold Brew Coffee With Cream & Sugar Chocolate 12ct/325ml cartons	855186006861	855186006861	0412	12/16/2022
				1412	12/17/2022
	Cold Brew Coffee with Cream & Sugar Original 12ct/325ml cartons	855156306847	10855186006844	2312	12/8/2022
				3312	12/9/2022
Imperial	Med Plus 2.0 Vanilla Nutritional Drink 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	074865927307	10074865927304	2312	2/6/2023
				3312	2/7/2023
				7112	1/22/2023
				8112	1/23/2023
				8612	3/14/2023
	Thickened Dairy Drink - Moderately Thick/Honey Consistency 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	0734730556147	10734730556144	5512	12/31/2022
				5902	11/1/2022
				6902	11/2/2022
				7212	12/3/2022
	Thickened Dairy Drink - Mildly Thick/Nectar Consistency	074865945493	10074865945490	0012	11/6/2022
				2212	11/28/2022
				3212	11/29/2022
				4212	11/30/2022

Brand	Description	UPC Carton	UPC Case (if sold in cases)	Lot Code	Best By Date
	24ct/8 fl oz cartons			5712	1/20/2023
				6712	1/21/2023
				9902	11/5/2022
	Med Plus NSA 1.7 Vanilla Nutritional Drink 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	0734730310749	10734730310746	1902	12/27/2022
				1312	2/5/2023
	Med Plus 2.0 Butter Pecan Nutritional Drink 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	074865927321	10074865927328	0012	1/5/2023
				1412	2/15/2023
				9512	3/5/2023
				9902	1/4/2023
	Thickened Dairy Drink - Mildly	0734730556154	10734730556151	2512	12/28/2022
				3512	12/29/2022
				6902	11/2/2022
Thick/Nectar Consistency 12ct/32 fl oz cartons	Thickened Dairy Drink - Moderately Thick/Honey Consistency 24ct/8 fl oz cartons	074865945509	10074865945506		
				4212	11/30/2022
				6212	12/2/2022

13. These products may contain *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacteria.

14. Per the CDC website, *Cronobacter* is a germ that can live in very dry places. The germs can live in dry foods, such as powdered food products.<sup>4</sup>

15. *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium can get into the Recalled Product if contaminated raw materials are used to make the product or if the powder touches a contaminated surface in the manufacturing environment.

16. *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium can cause severe, life-threatening infections, blood stream infections (sepsis), meningitis, and symptoms may include: fever, vomiting, and urinary tract infection. Infants, people over sixty-five (65), and those with weakened immune systems are those most at risk of developing severe illness from *Cronobacter*.<sup>5</sup>

17. On August 16, 2022, the FDA published an announcement by Lyons Magnus that the manufacturer expanded its recall to include “additional nutritional and beverage products due to the potential for microbial contamination.”<sup>6</sup> The recall expanded to include nearly 400 additional Lyons Magnus food nutritional and beverage products, which are listed in their entirety at the following FDA.gov website: <https://www.fda.gov/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/lyons-magnus-expands-voluntary-recall-include-additional-nutritional-and-beverage-products-due>.

18. “This recall is being conducted due to the potential for microbial contamination, including from the organisms *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum*.”

19. According to Lyons Magnus’ own company statement:

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<sup>4</sup> CDC.gov, <https://www.cdc.gov/cronobacter/technical.html> (last visited August 16, 2022).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> FDA.gov, <https://www.fda.gov/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/lyons-magnus-expands-voluntary-recall-include-additional-nutritional-and-beverage-products-due> (last visited August 16, 2022).

*Clostridium botulinum* may cause a severe form of food poisoning. It can begin from six hours to two weeks after eating food that contains the toxin. Symptoms may include double vision, blurred vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, and muscle weakness. Botulism poisoning can cause respiratory paralysis, resulting in death, unless assistance with breathing (mechanical ventilation) is provided.<sup>7</sup>

20. Defendant failed to take adequate, reasonable measures to protect the health and lives of people consuming its products.

21. Plaintiff purchased Defendant's Recalled Product – specifically, Premier Protein-Chocolate, at Sam's Club in or around Vero Beach and Costco in or around West Palm Beach.

22. Plaintiff made purchases of the Premier Protein – Chocolate in or around approximately December 2021, April 2022, July 2022 and August 2022.

23. Plaintiff paid approximately \$25 per case for each 15-pack purchased at Sam's Club and approximately \$36 per case for each 18-pack purchased at Costco.

24. As a direct and proximate result of Plaintiff purchasing the Recalled Product, Plaintiff has suffered injuries as alleged below.

### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

25. Plaintiff bring this action on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated class members (the "Class" or "Classes") pursuant to Rule 23(a), (b)(2) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and seeks certification of the following Class and/or Sub-Classes against Defendant for violations of Florida state laws and/or similar laws in other states:

#### **Multi-State Class Action**

All consumers who purchased any of Defendant's Recalled Product in the United States of America and its territories from July 1, 2021 to the present for personal use or consumption.

Excluded from the Class are individuals who allege personal bodily injury resulting from the use of the Recalled Products. Also excluded from this Class are

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<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

Defendant, any parent companies, subsidiaries, and/or affiliates, officers, directors, legal representatives, employees, co-conspirators, all governmental entities, and any judge, justice or judicial officer presiding over this matter.

26. In the alternative, Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and all other similarly situated Florida consumers pursuant to Rule 23(a), (b)(2) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and seeks certification of the following Sub-Classes:

**Florida Sub-Class**

All consumers who purchased any of Defendant's Recalled Product in Florida America from July 1, 2021 to the present for personal use or consumption.

Excluded from the Class are individuals who allege personal bodily injury resulting from the use of the Recalled Products. Also excluded from this Class are Defendant, any parent companies, subsidiaries, and/or affiliates, officers, directors, legal representatives, employees, co-conspirators, all governmental entities, and any judge, justice or judicial officer presiding over this matter.

27. Plaintiff reserves the right to modify these definitions.

28. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable. Plaintiff is informed and believes that the proposed Class/Sub-Classes contains thousands of purchasers of Defendant's Recalled Products who have been damaged by Defendant's conduct as alleged herein. The precise number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time.

29. Plaintiff's claims are typical to those of all Class members because members of the Class are similarly injured through Defendant's uniform misconduct described above and were subject to Defendant's deceptive claims that accompanied each and every Recalled Product. Plaintiff is advancing the same claims and legal theories on behalf of himself and all members of the Class/Sub-Class.



30. Plaintiff's claims raise questions of law and fact common to all members of the Class, and they predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class members. The claims of Plaintiff and all prospective Class members involve the same alleged defect. These common legal and factual questions include the following:

- (a) whether Defendant's Products contained *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium;
- (b) whether Defendant's omissions are true, or are misleading, or objectively reasonably likely to deceive;
- (c) whether the alleged conduct constitutes violations of the laws asserted;
- (d) whether Defendant's alleged conduct violates public policy;
- (e) whether Defendant's engaged in false or misleading advertising; and
- (f) whether Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled to damages and/or restitution and the proper measure of that loss.

31. Plaintiff and their counsel will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interests of each member of the class. Plaintiff have retained counsel experienced in complex litigation and class actions. Plaintiff's counsel has successfully litigated other class action cases similar to that here and have the resources and abilities to fully litigate and protect the interests of the class. Plaintiff intends to prosecute this claim vigorously. Plaintiff has no adverse or antagonistic interests to those of the Class, nor are Plaintiff subject to any unique defenses.

32. A class action is superior to the other available methods for a fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The damages or other financial detriment suffered by the Plaintiff and individual Class members is relatively small compared to the burden and expense that would be entailed by individual litigation of their claims against Defendant. It would thus be virtually

impossible for Plaintiff and Class members, on an individual basis, to obtain meaningful and effective redress for the wrongs done to them. Further, it is desirable to concentrate the litigation of the Class members' claims in one forum, as it will conserve party and judicial resources and facilitate the consistency of adjudications. Plaintiff knows of no difficulty that would be encountered in the management of this case that would preclude its maintenance as a class action.

33. The Class also may be certified because Defendant has acted or refused to act on grounds applicable to the Class, thereby making appropriate final declaratory and/or injunctive relief with respect to the members of the Class as a whole.

34. Plaintiff seek preliminary and permanent injunctive and equitable relief on behalf of the entire Class, on grounds generally applicable to the entire Class, to enjoin and prevent Defendant from engaging in the acts described above and requiring Defendant to provide a full refund of the purchase price of the Defendant's Recalled Products. Products to Plaintiff and Class members.

35. Unless a Class is certified, Defendant will retain monies received as a result of their conduct that were taken from Plaintiff and the Class members. Unless a Class-wide injunction is issued, Defendant will continue to commit the violations alleged and the members of the Class and the general public will continue to be misled.

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Unjust Enrichment**  
**(On Behalf of the Multi-State Class and All State Classes)**

36. Plaintiff incorporate by reference and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above, as though fully set forth herein.

37. As a result of Defendant's wrongful and deceptive conduct alleged herein, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily accepted and retained wrongful benefits in the form of

money paid by the Plaintiff and members of the Classes when they purchased the Defendant's Recalled Products.

38. In so doing, Defendant acted with conscious disregard for the rights of Plaintiff and members of the Classes.

39. As a result of Defendant's wrongful conduct as alleged herein, Defendant has been unjustly enriched at the expense of, and to the detriment of, Plaintiff and members of the Classes.

40. Defendant's unjust enrichment is traceable to, and resulted directly and proximately from, the conduct alleged herein.

41. Under the common law doctrine of unjust enrichment, it is inequitable for Defendant to be permitted to retain the benefits it received, and is still receiving, without justification, from the false and deceptive labeling and marketing of Defendant's Recalled Products to Plaintiff and members of the Classes.

42. Defendant's retention of such funds under circumstances making it inequitable to do so constitutes unjust enrichment.

43. The financial benefits derived by Defendant rightfully belong to Plaintiff and members of the Classes.

44. Defendant should be compelled to disgorge in a common fund for the benefit of Plaintiff and members of the Classes all wrongful or inequitable proceeds received by them.

45. Finally, Plaintiff and members of the Classes may assert an unjust enrichment claim even though a remedy at law may otherwise exist.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Negligent Misrepresentation/Omission**  
**(On Behalf of the Multi-State Class and All State Classes)**

46. Plaintiff incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation contained above, as though fully set forth herein.

47. Through their labeling and advertising, Defendant made representations to Plaintiff and the Class members concerning the safety of their Recalled Products.

48. Defendant has a duty to provide accurate information to consumers with respect to the ingredients identified in Defendant's Recalled Products as detailed above.

49. Additionally, Defendant has a duty to not make false representations with respect to the safety of their Products.

50. Defendant failed to fulfill its duty when it made false representations regarding the quality and safety of the Products as detailed above.

51. Such failures to disclose on the part of Defendant amount to negligent omission and the representations regarding the quality and safety of the product amount to negligent misrepresentation.

52. Plaintiff and the other members of the Classes reasonably relied upon such representations and omissions to their detriment.

53. By reason thereof, Plaintiff and the other Class members have suffered damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

**THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Breach of Express Warranty**  
**(On Behalf of the Multi-State Class and All State Classes)**

54. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-allege each and every allegation contained above, as though fully set forth herein.

55. As detailed above, Defendant, through its written literature, packaging and labeling, and written and media advertisement, expressly warranted that the Recalled Products

were safe and fit for the purposes intended, that they were of merchantable quality, and that they did not pose dangerous health risks.

56. Plaintiff and the other Class members read and relied on these express warranties provided by Defendant in the packaging and written advertisements.

57. Defendant breached its express warranties because the Recalled Products were defective and not reasonably safe for their intended use.

58. Defendant knew or should have known that the Recalled Products did not conform to their express warranties and representations and that, in fact, the Products are not safe and pose serious health risks because they contain Cronobacter.

59. Plaintiff and the other Class members have suffered harm on account of Defendant's breach of its express warranty regarding the fitness for use and safety of these Products and are entitled to damages to be determined at trial.

**FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Breach of Implied Warranty**  
**(On Behalf of the Multi-State Class and All State Classes)**

60. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-allege each and every allegation contained above, as though fully set forth herein.

61. Because the Recalled Products contained Cronobacter, they were not of the same quality as those generally acceptable in the trade and were not fit for the ordinary purposes for which such these nutritional and beverage products are used.

62. Plaintiff and members of the Classes purchased these Products in reliance upon Defendant's skill and judgment and the implied warranties of fitness for the purpose.

63. The Defendant's Recalled Products were not altered by Plaintiff or members of the Classes.

64. Plaintiff and members of the Classes were foreseeable users of the Products.

65. Plaintiff and members of the Classes used the Products in the manner intended.

66. As alleged, the Defendant's Recalled Products were not adequately labeled and did not disclose that they contain harmful Cronobacter.

67. The Products did not measure up to the promises or facts stated in the written literature, media advertisement and communications by and from Defendant.

68. Defendant impliedly warranted that the Products were merchantable, fit and safe for ordinary use.

69. Defendant further impliedly warranted that the Products were fit for the particular purposes for which they were intended and sold.

70. Contrary to these implied warranties, the Products were defective, unmerchantable, and unfit for their ordinary use when sold, and unfit for the particular purpose for which they were sold.

71. By reason thereof, Plaintiff and the other Class members have suffered damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

#### **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### **Strict Product Liability – Failure to Warn (On Behalf of the Multi-State Class and All State Classes)**

72. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-allege each and every allegation contained above, as though fully set forth herein.

73. Defendant knew or should have known that the Defendant's Recalled Products contained Cronobacter.

74. Defendant had a duty to warn Plaintiff and the other Class members about the presence of Cronobacter in their Products.

75. In addition, Defendant had a duty to warn Plaintiff and the other Class members about the dangers of the presence of Cronobacter in their Products.

76. Defendant knew that the risk of Cronobacter infection from use of its products was not readily recognizable to an ordinary consumer and that consumers would not inspect the product for Cronobacter content.

77. Defendant did not warn Plaintiff and the other Class members that Defendant's Recalled Products contain Cronobacter or about the dangers of the presence of *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium in their Products.

78. Plaintiff and the other Class members suffered damages by purchasing the Defendant's Recalled Products in a manner promoted by Defendant, and in a manner that was reasonably foreseeable by Defendant. Plaintiff and the members of the Classes would not have purchased Defendant's Recalled Products had they known they contained *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium.

79. Plaintiff and the other Class members were justified in their reliance on Defendant's labeling and advertising of the product for use as a safe nutritional and beverage product.

80. Plaintiff and the other Class members have suffered damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

#### **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### **Strict Product Liability – Manufacturing Defect (On Behalf of the Multi-State Class and All State Classes)**

81. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-allege each and every allegation contained above, as though fully set forth herein.

82. The Defendant's Recalled Products contained a manufacturing defect when they left the possession of Defendant. Specifically, the Products differ from Defendant's intended result or from other lots of the same product line because they contain *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium.

83. Plaintiff and the other Class members used the Products in a way that was reasonably foreseeable to Defendant.

84. As a result of the defects in the manufacture of the Defendant's Recalled Products, Plaintiff and the other Class members suffered damages.

85. Accordingly, Plaintiff and members of the Classes suffered damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

**SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Violation of Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act**  
**Fla. Stat. §§ 501.201-213**  
**(On Behalf of the Florida Class)**

86. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above, as though fully set forth herein.

87. Plaintiff was a consumer who used Defendant Recalled Products primarily for personal use and thereby suffered ascertainable losses, including mental anguish, as a result of Defendant's acts and omissions in violation of the applicable consumer protection laws.

88. The Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act ("FDUTPA") renders unlawful unfair methods of competition, unconscionable acts or practice, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce. Fla. Stat. § 501.204.

89. Among other purposes, FDUTPA is intended "[t]o protect the consuming public and legitimate business enterprises from those who engage in unfair methods of competition, or



unconscionable, deceptive, or unfair acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce.”

Fla. Stat. § 501.202.

90. As alleged herein, Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and lost money as a result of Defendant’s conduct because they purchased Recalled Products from Defendant in reliance on Defendant’s representation that the ingredients in their Recalled Products were safe and effective and were not contaminated with microorganisms, such as *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium.

91. Defendant has engaged, and continue to engage, in conduct that is likely to deceive members of the public. This conduct includes representing in their labels that their Recalled Products contain only the ingredients listed in the label, which is untrue, and failing to make any mention that the Recalled Products are adulterated with microorganisms, such as *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium.

92. Florida Statutes, Section 501.204, makes unfair and/or deceptive trade practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce illegal.

93. Florida Statutes, Section 501.211, creates a private right of action for individuals who are aggrieved by an unfair and/or deceptive trade practice by another person.

94. Florida Statutes, Section 501.2105, provides that the prevailing party in litigation arising from a cause of action pursuant to Chapter 501 shall be entitled to recover attorney’s fees within the limitations set forth therein from the non-prevailing party.

95. Florida Statutes, Section 501.213, provides that any remedies available under Chapter 501 are in addition to any other remedies otherwise available for the same conduct under state or local law.

96. Florida Statutes, Section 501.203 (3)(c), states that a person has violated the FDUTPA if he/she violates “any law, statute, rule, regulation, or ordinance which proscribes unfair, deceptive, or unconscionable acts or practices.”

97. Defendant is engaged in the practice of manufacturing, marketing, distributing, selling and otherwise placing into the stream of commerce the Recalled Products which constitutes trade and commerce as defined by Sections 501.203(8) Fla. Stat., and is therefore subject to FDUPTA.

98. As a result of Defendant’s unfair and deceptive trade practices, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of attorney’s fees pursuant to FDUTPA, Florida Statutes, Section 501.2105, if they prevail.

99. Defendant’s conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, marketing, and sale of their Recalled Products is unfair because Defendant’s conduct was immoral, unethical, unscrupulous, or substantially injurious to consumers and the utility of its conduct, if any, does not outweigh the gravity of the harm to its victims.

100. In accordance with FDUTPA, Plaintiff seeks an order enjoining Defendant from continuing to conduct business through fraudulent or unlawful acts and practices and to commence a corrective advertising campaign. Defendant’s conduct is ongoing and continuing, such that prospective injunctive relief is necessary.

101. Plaintiffs also seeks an order entitling them to recover all monies spent on the Defendant’s Recalled Products, which were acquired through acts of fraudulent, unfair, or unlawful competition. In addition, the measure of restitution should be full refund of the purchase price insofar as the Recalled Products and their associated labels are worthless. But for Defendant’s misrepresentations and omissions, Plaintiff would have paid nothing for Recalled Products that

have a risk of containing microorganisms such as *Cronobacter sakazakii* and *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium. Indeed, there is no discernible “market” for a nutritional/beverage product that may be adulterated with harmful bacteria. As a result, the Defendant’s Recalled Products are rendered valueless.

102. As a result of Defendant’s conduct in the manufacture of the Defendant’s Recalled Products violating the foregoing statutes and regulations, Plaintiff suffered damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, pray for judgment against the Defendant as to each and every count, including:

- A. An order declaring this action to be a proper class action, appointing Plaintiff and their counsel to represent the Class/Sub-Classes, and requiring Defendant to bear the costs of class notice;
- B. An order requiring Defendant to engage in a corrective advertising campaign and engage in any further necessary affirmative injunctive relief;
- E. An order awarding declaratory relief, and any further retrospective or prospective injunctive relief permitted by law or equity, including enjoining Defendant from continuing the unlawful practices alleged herein, and injunctive relief to remedy Defendant’s past conduct;
- F. An order requiring Defendant to pay restitution/damages to restore all funds acquired by means of any act or practice declared by this Court to be an unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice, untrue or misleading advertising in

violation of the above-cited authority, plus pre- and post-judgment interest thereon;

- G. An order requiring Defendant to disgorge any ill-gotten benefits received from Plaintiff and members of the Class/Sub-Classes as a result of any wrongful or unlawful act or practice;
- H. An order requiring Defendant to pay all actual and statutory damages permitted under the counts alleged herein;
- I. An order awarding attorneys' fees and costs to Plaintiff and the Class/Sub-Classes; and
- J. An order providing for all other such equitable relief as may be just and proper.

#### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

DATED: August 17, 2022

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